



ALBERTA LABOUR FORCE PROFILES

Immigrants in the Labour Force

2013

Alberta 

Highlights

Please see the appendix for important definitions.

1. Immigrants in Alberta

- Of the 6.5 million working age immigrants in Canada, 9.3% lived in Alberta in 2013.
- In 2013, immigrants accounted for 19.7% of the working age population in Alberta, the third highest percentage among the provinces.
- Alberta's annual share of new immigrants arriving in Canada was 14.0% in the first three quarters of 2013, the third highest among the provinces.

2. Labour Force Statistics of Immigrants in Alberta

- In 2013, Alberta had the third highest labour force participation and employment rates for immigrants among the provinces in Canada.
- The participation rates for male and female immigrants in Alberta, 76.3% and 63.6% respectively, were lower than their provincial counterparts' participation rates.
- Immigrants accounted for 21.5% of unemployed Albertans in 2013.
- Very recent immigrants had a higher unemployment rate than both more established and recent immigrants in 2013.
- The unemployment rate of established immigrants, 4.7%, was higher than the provincial rate of 4.6%.

3. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Industry

- The Services-Producing sector employed 75.6% of all working immigrants compared to the provincial average of 71.7% in 2013.
- Over one quarter of all Alberta immigrants were employed in Health Care and Social Assistance; and Trade (retail and wholesale) industries.

4. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Occupation

- The proportion of immigrants who were employed in the following occupations was higher than the provincial average: Natural and applied sciences; Sales and services; Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities; and Health.
- Employed immigrants who arrived very recently, 34.2% worked in the Sales and services occupations compared to the provincial average of 22.8%.

5. Full-time/Part-time Employment of Immigrants in Alberta

- A slightly higher percentage of employed immigrants, 84.5%, worked full-time compared to provincial average of 84.1%.
- A lower percentage of employed Alberta immigrants aged 15-24 worked full-time compared to the provincial average.

6. Average Hourly Wage of Immigrants in Alberta

- On average, Alberta immigrants earned \$1.85 less than the provincial average.
- Alberta immigrants earned higher average hourly wages than the province in the following four industries: Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Public Administration; Information, Culture and Recreation; and Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas.
- Among Alberta immigrants, established immigrants earned the highest average hourly wage of \$27.95, followed by recent immigrants, \$23.72, and \$22.09 for very recent immigrants.

1. Immigrants¹ in Alberta

Alberta's share of working age immigrants in Canada at 9.3% was the fourth highest after Ontario's 53.4%, British Columbia's 17.7% and Quebec's 14.3% (Figure 1).

Figure 1

Immigrant Working Age Population by Province, 2013		
	Immigrant Population (15+ years)	Share
Canada	6,727,200	100.0%
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,700	0.1%
Prince Edward Island	6,000	0.1%
Nova Scotia	44,700	0.7%
New Brunswick	27,900	0.4%
Quebec	959,100	14.3%
Ontario	3,592,300	53.4%
Manitoba	188,200	2.8%
Saskatchewan	80,800	1.2%
Alberta	625,300	9.3%
British Columbia	1,193,300	17.7%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Alberta had the third highest percentage of immigrants in its working age population at 19.7%, behind Ontario at 32.1%, and British Columbia at 31.0% (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Percentage of Immigrants in Working Age Population - Canada and Provinces, 2013			
	Total Population (15+ years)	Immigrant Population (15+ years)	Proportion of Immigrants (15+ years)
Canada	28,673,200	6,727,200	23.5%
Newfoundland and Labrador	429,500	9,700	2.3%
Prince Edward Island	120,800	6,000	5.0%
Nova Scotia	781,400	44,700	5.7%
New Brunswick	620,000	27,900	4.5%
Quebec	6,691,400	959,100	14.3%
Ontario	11,203,800	3,592,300	32.1%
Manitoba	973,500	188,200	19.3%
Saskatchewan	826,100	80,800	9.8%
Alberta	3,172,400	625,300	19.7%
British Columbia	3,854,500	1,193,300	31.0%

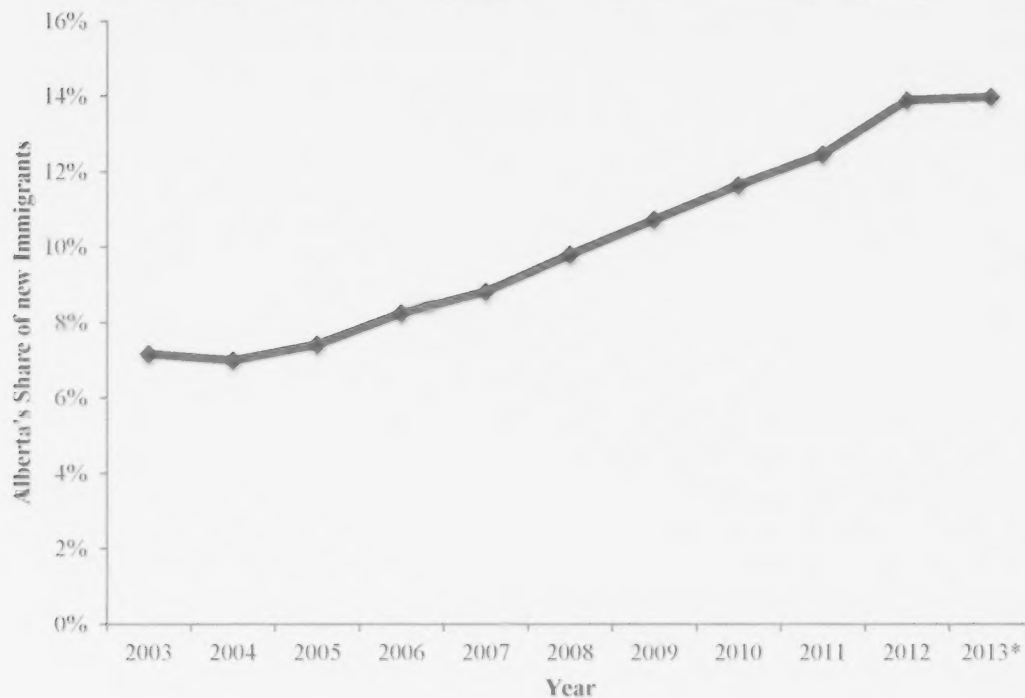
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

¹ Temporary foreign workers, refugee claimants and other non-permanent residents are not immigrants and are excluded from this analysis.

Alberta's annual share of new immigrants arriving in Canada grew continuously from 2004 to 2012 (Figure 3). For the first three quarters of 2013, Alberta's share of Canada's new immigrants was 14.0% and Alberta's share of Canada's total working age population was 11.1% in 2013.

Figure 3

Proportion of New Immigrants arriving in Canada and Alberta



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Preliminary 2013 Data

Note: 2013 only based on the first three quarters

2. Labour Force Statistics of Immigrants in Alberta

The 625,300 immigrants in Alberta made up 19.7% of the Alberta working age population in 2013, while the immigrant labour force of 426,600 was 18.4% of the labour force in Alberta (Figure 4).

Figure 4

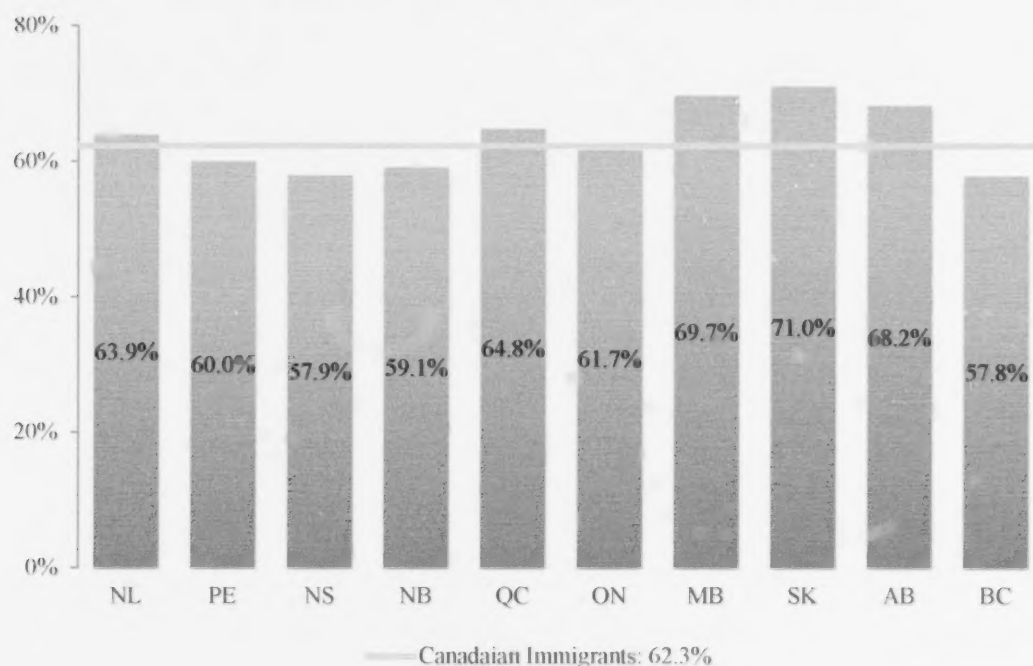
Labour Force Statistics for Immigrants in Alberta, 2013		
	Alberta (15+ years)	Alberta Immigrants (15+ years)
Working Age Population	3,172,400	625,300
Labour Force	2,318,200	426,600
Employment	2,211,000	403,700
Unemployment	107,200	23,000
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	5.4%
Participation Rate	73.1%	68.2%
Employment Rate	69.7%	64.6%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, immigrants in Alberta had the third highest participation rate among all provinces, at 68.2%, behind Saskatchewan's 71.0% and Manitoba's 69.7%. The Canadian rate for immigrants was 62.3% (Figure 5).

Figure 5

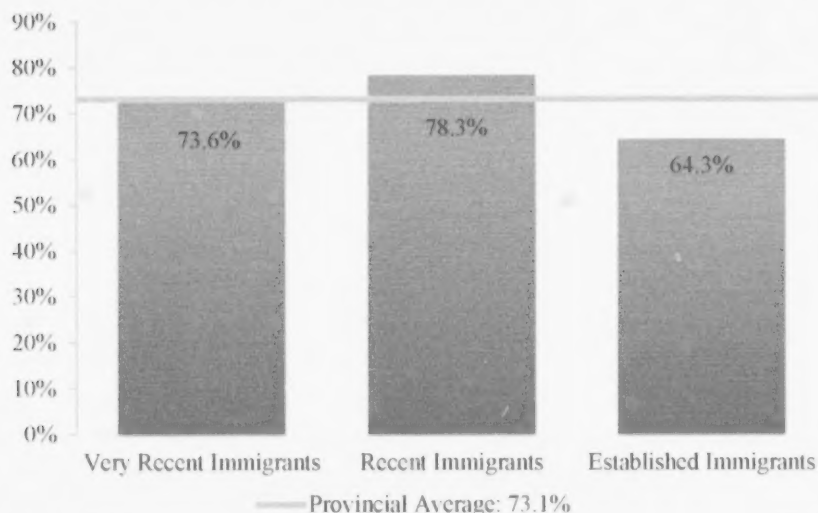
Participation Rate of Immigrants by Province, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

At 78.3%, Alberta recent immigrants had the highest participation rate among the three immigrant categories in 2013 (Figure 6). This rate was 14.0 percentage points higher than the participation rate of established immigrants and 5.2 percentage points higher than the provincial average.

Figure 6
Participation Rates for Alberta Immigrants, 2013

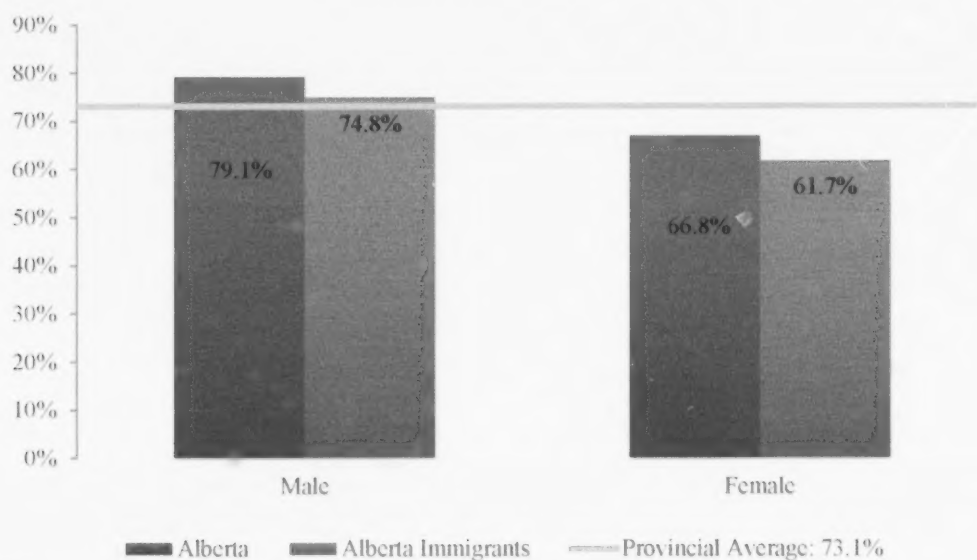


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013.

Note: See the appendix for the definitions of very recent immigrants, recent immigrants and established immigrants.

The provincial participation rates for males and females in Alberta were higher than the corresponding rates for male and female immigrant Albertans (Figure 7).

Figure 7
Participation Rates, 2013

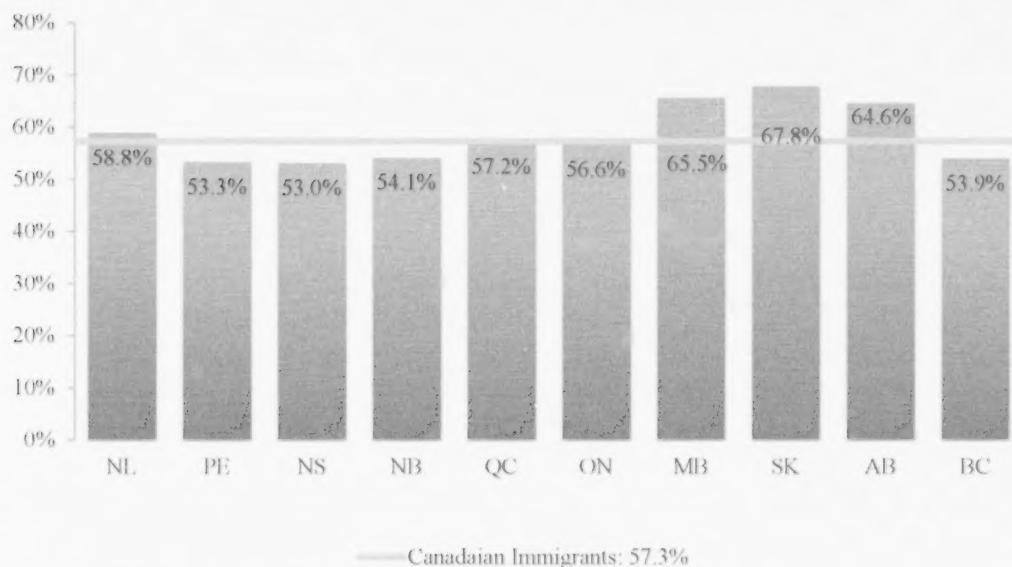


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Immigrants in Alberta had the third highest employment rate, at 64.6% behind Saskatchewan's 67.8% and Manitoba's 65.5% in 2013 (Figure 8). The employment rate for immigrants in Alberta in 2013, was 7.3 percentage points above the Canadian immigrant rate of 57.3%.

Figure 8

Employment Rates for Immigrants by Province, 2013

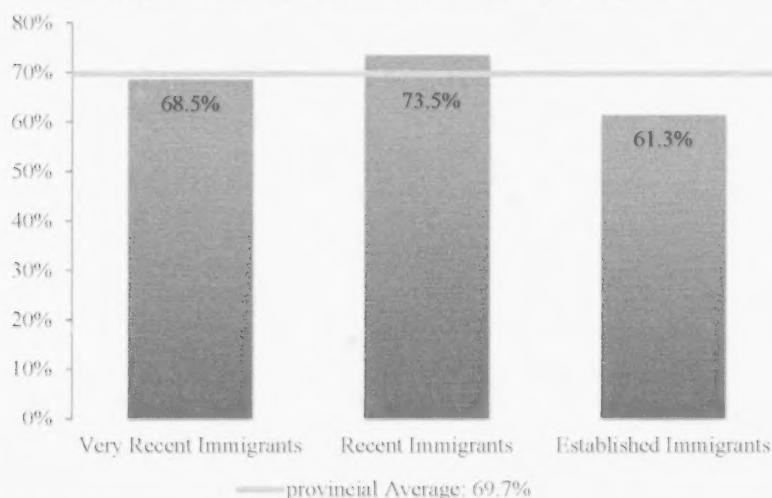


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, recent immigrants in Alberta had the highest employment rate, at 73.5% (Figure 9). This rate was 12.2 percentage points higher than the rate for established immigrants. The provincial employment rate was 69.7%.

Figure 9

Employment Rates for Alberta Immigrants, 2013



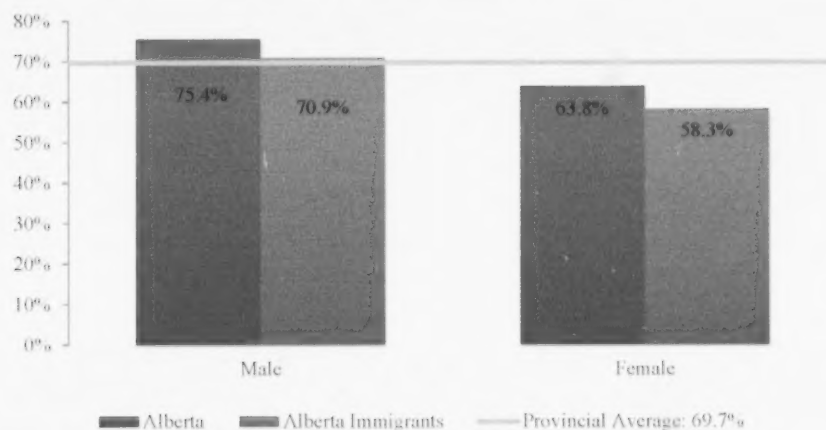
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2013

Note: See the appendix for the definitions of very recent immigrants, recent immigrants and established immigrants.

In 2013, the employment rate for Alberta immigrant males was 4.5 percentage points lower than the provincial rate for males. The rate for immigrant females was 5.5 percentage points lower than the provincial rate for females (Figure 10).

Figure 10

Employment Rates, 2013

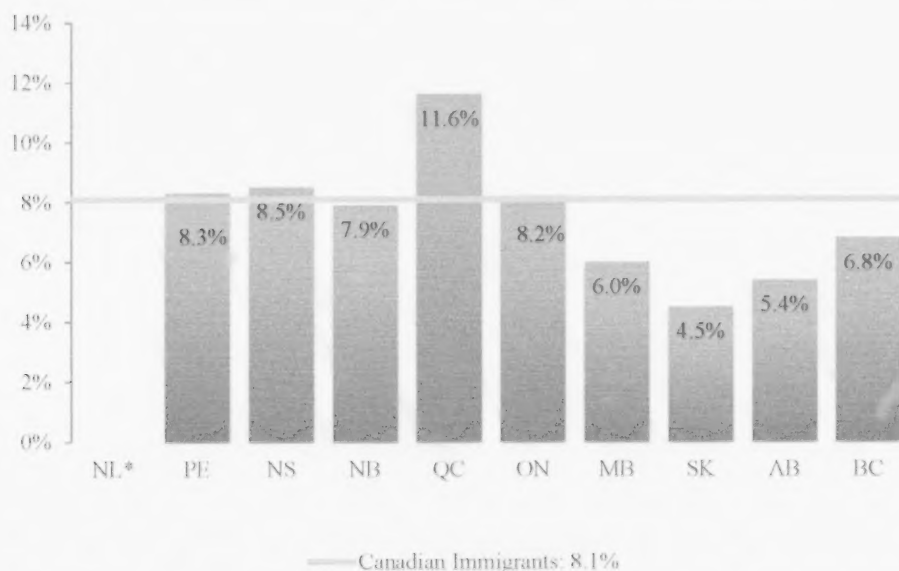


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2013

Immigrants accounted for 21.5% of Alberta's unemployed people in 2013. Their unemployment rate of 5.4% was 0.8 percentage points higher than the provincial unemployment rate of 4.6% but below Canada's unemployment rate of 8.1% for immigrants (Figure 11).

Figure 11

Unemployment Rates for Immigrants by Provinces, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

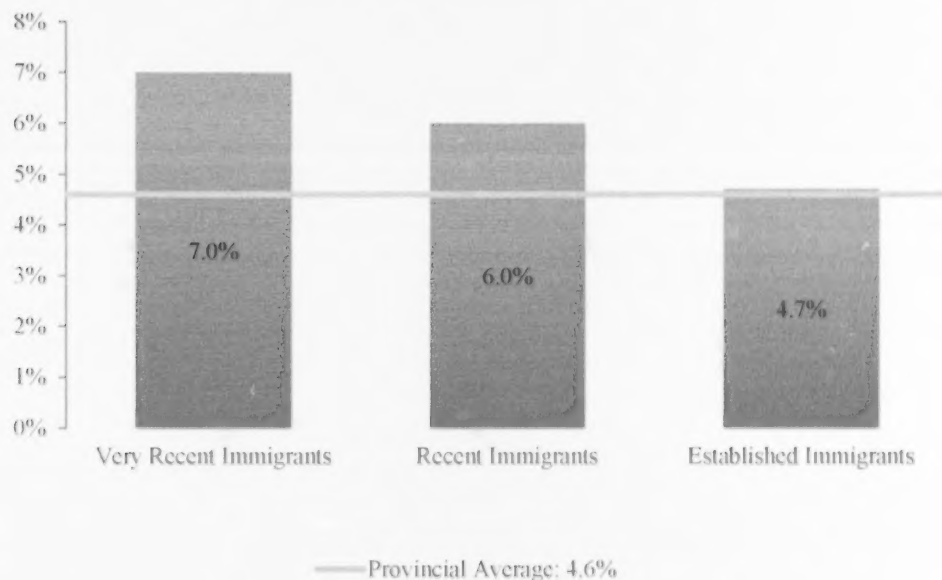
Note: The rate for Newfoundland and Labrador was not disclosed.

* Insufficient data

The unemployment rates for immigrants in 2013 varied by the length of residence in the country since arrival. The unemployment rate for very recent immigrants was 2.3 percentage points higher than the rate for established immigrants (Figure 12).

Figure 12

Unemployment Rates for Alberta Immigrants, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2013

Note: See the appendix for the definitions of very recent immigrants, recent immigrants and established immigrants.

3. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Industry

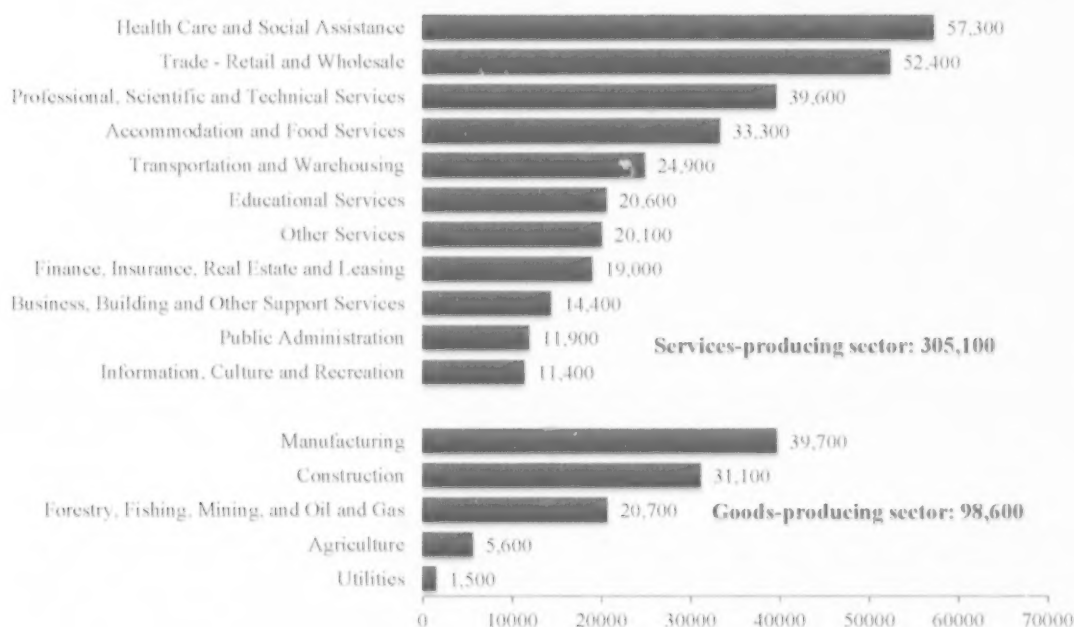
In 2013, 305,100 or 75.6% of employed Alberta immigrants worked in the Services-Producing Sector (Figure 13). The provincial average for this sector was 71.7%.

The top five industries in which immigrants were employed in 2013 were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 57,300; Trade - Retail and Wholesale, 52,400; Manufacturing, 39,700; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 39,600; and Accommodation and Food Services, 33,300. Together, these five industries accounted for 55.1% of all employed immigrants in the province.

The proportion of immigrants employed in the Goods-Producing sector was 24.4%, which was 3.9 percentage points lower than the proportion for the entire province (Figure 14).

Figure 13

Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Industry, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

For very recent immigrants, 43.0% worked in three industries: Health Care and Social Assistance; Trade; and Accommodation and Food Services. For recent immigrants, 45.9% worked in four industries: Trade; Health Care and Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, and Manufacturing. Established immigrants, 46.6% were employed in four industries: Health Care and Social Assistance; Trade; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; and Manufacturing.

For Alberta, 44.0% were employed in the following four industries: Trade; Health Care and Social Assistance; Construction; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.

Figure 14

Percentage Distribution of Employed Albertans and Alberta Immigrants by Industry, 2013					
Industry	Alberta	Total Landed Immigrants	Very Recent Immigrants	Recent Immigrants	Established Immigrants
Goods-Producing Sector	28.3%	24.4%	25.4%	25.4%	23.9%
Agriculture	2.9%	1.4%	*	*	1.5%
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Quarrying, Oil and Gas	7.9%	5.1%	7.0%	5.2%	4.6%
Utilities	0.8%	0.4%	*	*	*
Construction	10.5%	7.7%	7.8%	8.8%	7.3%
Manufacturing	6.3%	9.8%	9.6%	9.9%	9.9%
Services-Producing Sector	71.7%	75.6%	74.5%	74.8%	76.1%
Trade	14.8%	13.0%	15.1%	13.6%	12.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	5.3%	6.2%	4.5%	7.6%	6.2%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	5.0%	4.7%	2.9%	4.9%	5.2%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8.0%	9.8%	8.4%	10.4%	10.1%
Business, Bbuilding and Other Support Services	3.4%	3.6%	4.7%	3.9%	3.1%
Educational Services	5.8%	5.1%	3.3%	4.1%	5.9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	10.6%	14.2%	15.5%	12.0%	14.4%
Information, Culture and Recreation	3.5%	2.8%	2.8%	2.4%	3.0%
Accommodation and Food Services	6.1%	8.2%	12.4%	9.3%	6.7%
Other Services	5.0%	5.0%	4.1%	3.3%	5.8%
Public Administration	4.0%	2.9%	*	3.2%	3.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Note: Percent may not add to 100% due to rounding

* Insufficient data

4. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Occupation

In 2013, a higher proportion of Alberta immigrants were employed in four occupations compared to the provincial average. These occupations were Natural and applied sciences and related, Sales and services, Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities, and Health. Together, these four occupations accounted for 52.8% of employed Alberta immigrants compared to the provincial share of 40.5%.

Figure 15

Percent Distribution of Employed Albertans by Occupation, 2013		
Occupation	Alberta	Immigrants
Management	7.5%	7.2%
Business, finance and administrative	17.3%	13.8%
Natural and applied sciences and related	8.7%	12.7%
Health	6.1%	8.2%
Social science, education, government service and religion	7.3%	5.4%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	2.5%	2.4%
Sales and service	22.8%	26.1%
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related	18.8%	15.8%
Unique to primary industry	6.1%	2.6%
Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	2.9%	5.8%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, the occupation that employed the highest proportions of very recent, recent and established immigrants was Sales and service (Figure 16).

Figure 16

Percentage Distribution of Employed Immigrants by Category and Occupation, 2013			
Occupation	Very Recent Immigrants	Recent Immigrants	Established Immigrants
Management	2.9%	4.8%	9.2%
Business, finance and administrative	11.3%	13.4%	14.6%
Natural and applied sciences and related	12.4%	15.6%	11.9%
Health	9.1%	6.3%	8.5%
Social science, education, government service and religion	5.4%	5.1%	5.6%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	*	*	3.2%
Sales and service	34.2%	28.3%	23.1%
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related	15.0%	17.2%	15.6%
Unique to primary industry	2.4%	2.0%	2.8%
Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	7.1%	5.5%	5.5%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

* Insufficient data

Note: Percent may not add to 100% due to rounding

5. Full-time/Part-time Employment of Immigrants in Alberta

Alberta immigrants had a higher proportion of full time employment compared to the provincial proportion. Established Alberta immigrants had the highest percentage of full-time employment, 85.0%; while very recent immigrants had the highest percentage of part-time employment, 16.7%.

Figure 17

Proportion of Full- and Part-Time Employment in Alberta, 2013			
	Employment	Proportion Full-time Employment	Proportion Part-time Employment
Alberta	2,211,000	84.1%	15.9%
Immigrants	403,700	84.5%	15.5%
Very Recent Immigrants	76,000	83.3%	16.7%
Recent Immigrants	74,900	84.5%	15.5%
Established Immigrants	252,700	85.0%	15.1%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2013

Note: Percent may not add to 100% due to rounding

In 2013, Alberta immigrants had a lower proportion of 15 to 24 year olds employed full time compared to the provincial share; however a higher proportion of Alberta immigrants 55 years and over were employed fulltime.

Figure 18

Full-time and Part-time Employment in Alberta by Age Group, 2013				
	Alberta		Alberta Immigrants	
	Employed	Percent	Employed	Percent
All 15+ years	2,211,000	100.0%	403,700	100.0%
Full-time	1,859,900	84.1%	341,300	84.5%
Part-time	351,000	15.9%	62,400	15.5%
15-24 years	317,600	14.4%	26,100	6.5%
Full-time	207,100	9.4%	13,500	3.3%
Part-time	110,500	5.0%	12,700	3.1%
25-54 years	1,496,200	67.7%	296,900	73.5%
Full-time	1,339,000	60.6%	263,300	65.2%
Part-time	157,200	7.1%	33,600	8.3%
55+ years	397,200	18.0%	80,700	20.0%
Full-time	313,900	14.2%	64,500	16.0%
Part-time	83,300	3.8%	16,100	4.0%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

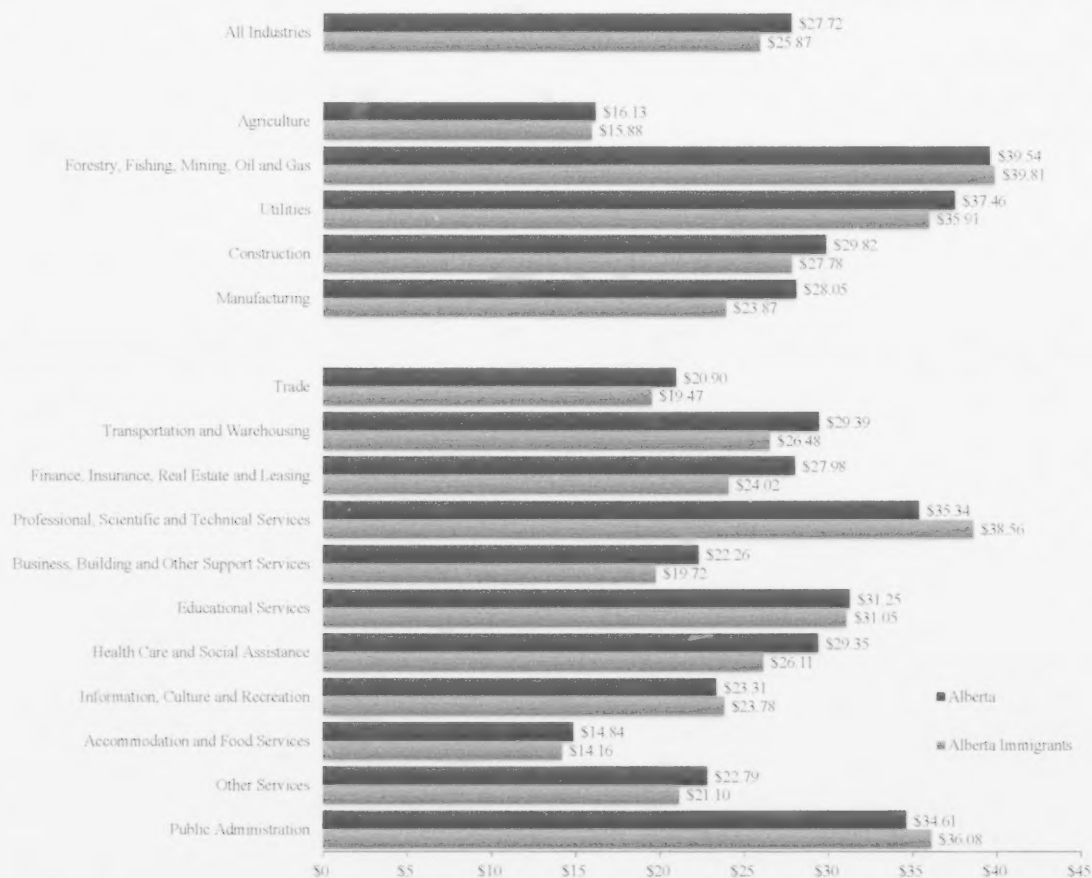
6. Average Hourly Wage of Immigrants in Alberta

Alberta immigrants employed in the following four industries earned higher average hourly wages than the provincial average: Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Public Administration; Information, Culture and Recreation; and Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas (Figure 19).

Overall, Alberta immigrants' hourly wages were \$1.85 less than the Alberta average.

Figure 19

Average Hourly Wages for Albertans by Industry, 2013

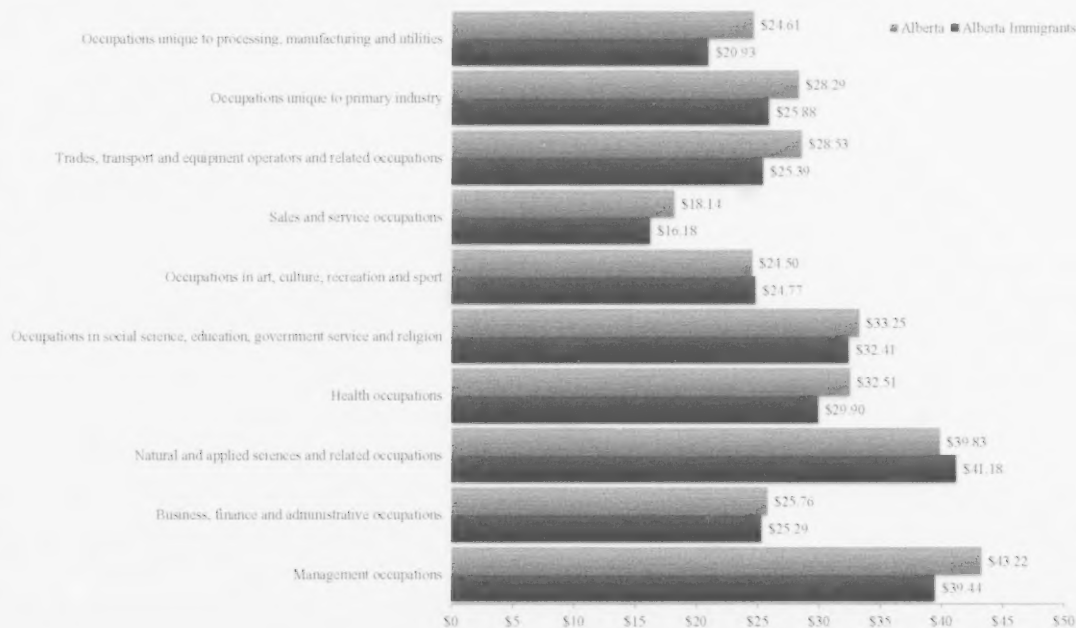


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

The provincial average hourly wage by occupation was higher than the average for Alberta immigrants in all but two occupations: Natural and applied sciences and related; and Art, culture, recreation and sport (Figure 20). The three occupations with the largest difference between the provincial average and the average for Alberta immigrants were: Management, with a differential of \$3.78; unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities, \$3.68; and Trades, transport and equipment operators and related, \$3.14.

Figure 20

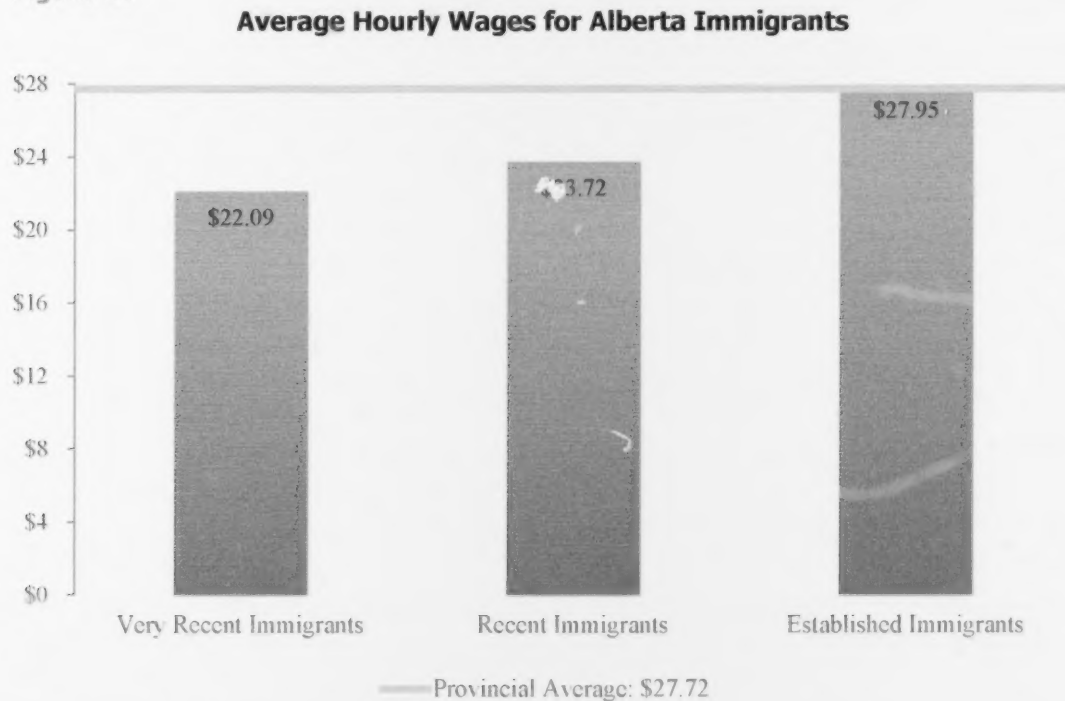
Average Hourly Wages for Albertans by Occupation, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

The average hourly wages immigrants received were higher as they became more established in Alberta (Figure 21). Established immigrants received the highest average hourly wage, which were \$5.86 more than very recent immigrants and \$4.23 more than recent immigrants in 2013.

Figure 21



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Appendix

All of the following definitions are from the Guide to the Labour Force Survey 2013.pdf, Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE.

Employment Rate: The number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of the working age population (WAP).

Industry: The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only).

Labour Force: The labour force is composed of the portion of the WAP who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed. The reference week is defined as the week containing the 15th day of the month in which information is collected for the Labour Force Survey.

Occupation: The kind of work persons 15+ years were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if that job was held in the past year.

Immigrant: Refers to people who are, or have been, landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Canadian citizens by birth and non-permanent residents (persons from another country who live in Canada and have a work or study permit, or are claiming refugee status, as well as family members living here with them) are not landed immigrants.

Very recent immigrants are individuals who have been landed immigrants in Canada for 5 years or less prior to the Labour Force Survey (LFS). **Recent immigrants** are individuals who have been landed immigrants in Canada for more than 5 years but no more than 10 years prior to the LFS. **Established immigrants** are individuals who have been landed immigrants in Canada for more than 10 years prior to the LFS.

Participation Rate: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the WAP. This measure represents the proportion of the WAP that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

Working Age Population: Those persons 15+ years except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

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Published: April 2014.

ISBN 978-1-4601-1594-7

ISSN 2292-6674